IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Peter Gerardus Jansen	:	Confirmation No.:
Application No.: 35 U.S.C. 371 of PCT/NL2003/000896	:	Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned
PCT Filing Date: 16 December 2003	:	Examiner: Not yet assigned
For: MEMORY MANAGEMENT IN A COMPUTER SYSTEM	:	Attorney Docket No.: DVME-1031US

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

Prior to examination and calculation of claims fees, please amend the above-identified application as set forth below.

A listing of claims including amendments to the Claims begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (New) A method of controlling memory allocation in a computer system comprising physical memory, at least one storage device and at least one processing unit, and arranged to implement virtual memory, which computer system is capable of enabling at least two processes associated with respective instances of application programs to be running, only one active process being enabled to receive input from a user at any one time, said method comprising the step of selecting at least one of the processes to be at least partially transferred from physical memory to a storage device based on which processes have been inactive for longer than a pre-determined time interval.

11. (New) A method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of determining a respective share of processing capacity of at least one said processing unit dedicated to running each selected process, and initiating the at least partial transferral of only those selected processes of which the share lies below a pre-determined level.

12. (New) A method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of determining a fraction of processing capacity of the at least one of the processing units being used, and initiating transferral of one or more of the selected processes only if the fraction lies below a pre-determined maximum.

13. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein the step of selecting is carried out irrespective of how much of the physical memory is available for additional processes.

14. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein the step of selecting is repeated at least once.

15. (New) A method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of determining a fraction of processing capacity of the at least one of the processing units being used, and initiating transferral of one or more of the selected processes only if the fraction lies below a pre-determined maximum.

16. (New) A method according to claim 11, wherein the step of selecting is carried out irrespective of how much of the physical memory is available for additional processes.

17. (New) A method according to claim 12, wherein the step of selecting is carried out irrespective of how much of the physical memory is available for additional processes.

18. (New) A method according to claim 15, wherein the step of selecting is carried out irrespective of how much of the physical memory is available for additional processes.

19. (New) A method of controlling memory allocation in a computer system comprising physical memory, at least one storage device and at least one processing unit, and arranged to implement virtual memory, which computer system is capable of enabling at least two processes associated with respective instances of application programs to be running, only one active process being enabled to receive input from a user at any one time, said method comprising the step of selecting a process to be at least partially transferred from physical memory to a storage device after determining that more than a pre-determined interval of time has elapsed since creation of the process.

20. (New) A method according to claim 19, further comprising the step of determining a respective share of processing capacity of at least one said processing unit dedicated to running each selected process, and initiating the at least partial transferral of only those selected processes of which the share lies below a pre-determined level.

21. (New) A method according to claim 19, further comprising the step of determining a fraction of processing capacity of the at least one of the processing units being used, and initiating transferral of one or more of the selected processes only if the fraction lies below a pre-determined maximum.

22. (New) A method according to claim 19, wherein the step of selecting is carried out irrespective of how much of the physical memory is available for additional processes.

23. (New) A method according to claim 22, wherein the step of selecting is repeated at least once.

24. (New) A method according to claim 20, further comprising the step of determining a fraction of processing capacity of the at least one of the processing units being used, and initiating transferral of one or more of the selected processes only if the fraction lies below a pre-determined maximum.

25. (New) A method according to claim 20, wherein the step of selecting is carried out irrespective of how much of the physical memory is available for additional processes.

26. (New) A method according to claim 21, wherein the step of selecting is carried out irrespective of how much of the physical memory is available for additional processes.

27. (New) A method according to claim 24, wherein the step of selecting is carried out irrespective of how much of the physical memory is available for additional processes.

28. (New) A computer readable medium, having thereon instructions, when run on a computer system, for enabling the computer system to carry out a method according to claim 10.

29. (New) A computer readable medium, having thereon instructions, when run on a computer system, for enabling the computer system to carry out a method according to claim 19.

REMARKS

Entry of this amendment preliminary to examination of the above-identified application and preliminary to calculation of the claims fees, is requested.

The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple dependent claims, to correct minor errors and place the claims into United States format. The additional claims are based on the multiple dependent claims and thus no new matter has been added.

Favorable consideration and entry of the amendment is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 1, 2006

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